

would...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...move forward at all, would be \$2 million, that you want to lower the ceiling as far as the amount of dollars that a particular grant proposal can receive because, by lowering it to 250,000, what we will do then is to expand the number of entities within the state that could take advantage of this operation. And so this amendment does not affect the spending. This amendment does not affect the A bill. What this amendment says is that if we are indeed going to...

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...lower the amount, and if that may be, in fact, what moves forward, you need to lower the ceiling based on that amount so that you can affect more people and help more people in all parts of the state.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time, Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: That's the reason for the amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Would like to recognize some guests in the north balcony. Senator Fisher has 48 fourth graders and two teachers from West Lawn Elementary School in Grand Island. They are in the north balcony. Senator Hartnett has 15 municipal clerks, including, as I see up there, the very able city clerk from the City of LaVista. We also have with them Paul Malzer, City Clerk of Lincoln. They are here as part of the Week of Municipal Clerks. I believe we passed a resolution last week related to that. So if a' of you people in the balcony would stand, we'd appreciate it. Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I hadn't really intended to talk a lot but then the thought occurred to me that I had been voting no on most of Senator Bernard-Stevens' amendments today and I thought if I was going to do it one more time, the least I could do is explain why. But the issue that...and by the way, Senator David, I may not vote for this bill for the reasons you're expressing and it's a budget issue and not the merit, but the thing that is running through my mind, I guess the introducers could persuade me to go one way or the other, but it seems to me if it's going to have